

Resolution No.:	17-948
Introduced:	November 12, 2013
Adopted:	November 19, 2013

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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By: County Council

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**SUBJECT:** Approval of FY15 request for State Funding of Montgomery County School Construction Program and Approval of Five-Year Capital Improvements Program Estimates for FY16-20

**Background**

1. Section 5-301 of the Education Article, Maryland Code, as amended, authorizes the State Board of Public Works to adopt rules, regulations, and procedures for the administration of the school construction program.
2. These rules, regulations, and procedures require each local Board of Education to submit to the Interagency Committee, by November 25, 2013, its updated and detailed capital improvements program for the following year, and a school capital improvements program for the ensuing five fiscal years, both of which shall have been approved by the local governing body.
3. In Montgomery County, the local governing body includes the County Executive, who is authorized to review and make recommendations, and the County Council, which is required to approve the Capital Improvements Program.
4. Montgomery County Public Schools' latest estimate for its State funding eligibility for FY15 is \$160,933,000. This estimate may change based on further discussions with Board of Public Works staff.
5. For FY16 through FY20, an amount of \$521,502,000 in State aid eligibility is assumed for currently approved projects.
6. The rules, regulations and procedures for the administration of the school construction program adopted by the State Board of Public Works provide for amendments during the course of the year to the Five-Year Capital Improvements Program.
7. The County Council realizes that, for a project for which State funding is approved, County funding may be required to supplement State funds.

8. The County Council continues to support review by the Interagency Committee on School Construction of the State's eligibility guidelines, especially with regard to projects forward-funded by Montgomery County and the square footage eligibility formulas that negatively affect capital funding for classrooms needed to accommodate class size reduction initiatives.
9. Montgomery County continues to experience extraordinary public school enrollment growth. From 2000 to 2012 school enrollment grew by 14,599 students. An increase of 14,000 students is projected over the next six years. Montgomery County Public School enrollment is the largest and fastest growing of any jurisdiction in the State of Maryland, making up over 17 percent of total statewide public school enrollment. However, Montgomery County's share of school construction funding has consistently been far less than its share of public school students. For FY14, Montgomery County's share of State aid for school construction funding was 11.0 percent.
10. If Montgomery County had received State aid for school construction funding in FY05 through FY14 at a level equal to Montgomery County's share of statewide public school enrollment, Montgomery County would have received an estimated \$135 million more than it actually received during that period.
11. Because State aid for school construction funding has not kept pace with Montgomery County's school infrastructure needs. New funding from the State outside the annual school construction program is needed and will be sought from the State during the 2014 legislative session.


#### Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Council for Montgomery County supports the Montgomery County Public Schools FY15 State aid request for the Montgomery County School Construction Program.

The County Council intends to provide the operating funds necessary to operate and maintain the facilities for which FY15 State capital funding is approved.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



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Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council